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Venice, May 8. *N. S.*

ABOVE two hundred of the most eminent Merchants of this City have been lately at the College, where they presented a Memorial, setting forth the great Hardships they endure, and the Miseries to which they will soon be reduced, if the French continue to seize their Ships, to the apparent ruin of the Trade in these Parts. The Senate is very sensible, that the grounds for these Complaints are just and undeniable; but it is not yet known what Resolutions will be taken thereupon. On the 27th of the last Month Baron Urbich had his first Audience of the Senate as Plenipotentiary and Counsellor of State to his Czarish Majesty, and was likewise on Tuesday last at the College, whither he was sent for to receive an Answer to his Speech. The Success of his Negotiation is yet uncertain; but Signior Morosini, who was Ambassador at Rome, is appointed to treat with him in the name of the State. Prince Hercolani, the late Emperor's Minister, having put himself and all his Family in the strictest Mourning, notified on Wednesday the Death of his Imperial Majesty, and at the same time shew'd a Commission, by which he is authoriz'd to act as Minister from the House of Austria. Signior Zani has been order'd to repair forthwith to Inspruck, where he is to remain 'till he receives farther Orders from the Senate, and the Procurator Ruzzini is upon his Departure for the Hague. They write from Naples, that the Prince of Darmstad was gone with three Gallies and some Soldiers to Gaeta, in order to put that Fortress into a good posture of Defence, and secure it against any Designs the French, or their Emissaries, who continue very active in that Kingdom, may have against it.

Berlin, May 9. *N. S.* Wednesday last being the Anniversary of the Queen's Birth-Day, the Court went out of Mourning, and the Cannon was fired on that Occasion. Tho' the 20th of this Month continues fix'd for his Majesty's departure for Holland, it is thought that Journey will be deferr'd 'till after the Holidays. However, the Grand Veneur is already set out for Cleves, and Monsieur Blaspiel, the Commissary General, is to follow him on Monday next. The Prince Royal declining to undertake the Administration of the Government during the King's Absence, it is thought Margrave Philip will be entrusted with it. The King has appointed Monsieur Bartholdi, his Majesty's Resident at Vienna, to go forthwith to Barcelona, where he is to make the King of Spain his Compliments of Condolance on the Emperor's Death, and assure his Catholick Majesty of his Vote at the approaching Election. Monsieur Bartholdi is likewise made President of the Chamber of Finances at Halberstat; but on Condition, that at his return from Barcelona he shall still perform the Functions of Resident at Vienna so long as his Majesty shall think fit to continue him in that Employment.

Hanover, May 15. *N. S.* Mr. Whitworth, the Queen of Great Britain's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Czar of Muscovy, arriv'd here the 13th Instant from the Hague, and continued his Journey yesterday towards Berlin, from whence they write, that the King of Prussia is to set out from that Place the 20th for Cleves. The Hereditary Prince of Muscovy is arriv'd incognito at Brunswick, whither his Polish Majesty's Envoy at this Court is gone to wait on him. The Princess of Wolfenbuttel is with the Queen of Poland at Torgow, where the Prince is expected in a few Days; and it is thought that soon after his Arrival the Nuptials will be solemnis'd at that Place.

Brussels, May 21. *N. S.* They write from the Frontiers, that both Armies continue in their former Camps; but that Marshal Villars has been obliged to disperse his Horse in small Bodies at great distance from each other, for the conveniency of their Subsistance. All the Stores of dry Forage in the Magazines at Cambray are already consum'd, and those of Arras and the Towns behind it are in a manner exhausted. Marshal Villars has been lately to visit the Inundations near Valenciennes; they are grown so high, that they are become Navigable. He looks on this at present as his greatest Security; but it is believ'd here, that when the Inundations are abated he will find it difficult to guard so great an Extent of Lines. The French Forces are very ill paid, and the Officers labour under extream Difficulties, insomuch that several of them have chosen to throw up their Commissions, and quit the Service, rather than be exposed to so many Hardships. This has induced the Court to publish a new Edict importing, that all such as have a mind to resign, and have any Estates of their own, shall be fin d in proportion to their Estates. Accordingly a Captain was lately condemn d to pay one thousand Crowns, in order to obtain his Dismission; and those who have no Estates, and refuse to continue in the Service, are to be imprison'd during the King's Pleasure. Marshal Villars went the 9th Instant to Quesnoy, under a Guard of four hundred Horse, and from thence as far as Aymeries, near which Place a Camp has been mark'd out; and it is said Monsieur Artagnan is to Command a Body of forty thousand Men between the Sambre and the Meuse: Our Letters from the Camp of the 19th add, that the Prince of Savoy was expected there that Evening, as were the Palatin and some other Troops in a few Days after; and that when these Forces had join'd the Army, it was believ'd the Allies wou'd begin some Enterprize.

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